

Senate Resolution 575

By: Senators Tate of the 38th, Orrock of the 36th, Reed of the 35th, Fort of the 39th, Brown of the 26th and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Honorable Shirley Franklin, Mayor of the City of Atlanta; and
2 for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, in 2002, Honorable Shirley Franklin made history with her inauguration as the
4 City of Atlanta's mayor, becoming the first female mayor of the city and the first African
5 American female mayor of a major Southern city; and

6 WHEREAS, during her tenure, Mayor Franklin has worked tirelessly to return accountability
7 to city government, strengthen the city's existing framework, implement progressive changes,
8 and make tough decisions to improve the City of Atlanta and quality of life for all Atlantans;
9 and

10 WHEREAS, Mayor Franklin has overhauled the city's aging water and sewer system,
11 implemented the one of the nation's strongest ethics reform programs, oversaw the
12 completion of a fifth runway at Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport, and
13 administered the Quality of Life Bond Program to add new sidewalks and improve existing
14 pathways, trails, and roadways throughout Atlanta; and

15 WHEREAS, passionate about educating the future leaders of Atlanta, Mayor Franklin
16 created the Mayor's Youth Program, designed to engage high school students to plan for life
17 beyond high school; and through the Next Step program, over 900 Atlanta high school
18 graduates have been assisted with tuition and funding for school supplies since 2005; and

19 WHEREAS, a Howard University and University of Pennsylvania alumna, Mayor Franklin
20 has been recognized as the 2004 Public Official of the Year by *Governing* magazine, one of
21 *Time* magazine's top five mayors in the country in 2005, one of America's Best Leaders by
22 *U.S. News and World Report*, Municipal Leader of the Year by *American City and County*
23 *Magazine*, and 2007's Person of the Year by *Georgia Trend* magazine; and

24 WHEREAS, Mayor Franklin has been awarded the 2005 John F. Kennedy Profile in Courage
25 Award, the Ethics Advocate Award from the Southern Institute for Business and Professional
26 Ethics in 2006, and numerous honorary degrees from prestigious universities across the
27 country; and

28 WHEREAS, her foresight, vision, and leadership skills have earned her the respect of her
29 colleagues and the residents of Atlanta she has served ably and proudly since 2002, and her
30 commitment to making the City of Atlanta the best city in the nation is worthy of
31 recognition.

32 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
33 commend Honorable Shirley Franklin on her stellar achievements as Mayor of Atlanta and
34 extend their most heartfelt gratitude for her many contributions to the City of Atlanta, Fulton
35 County, and the State of Georgia.

36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
37 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Honorable Shirley Franklin.